

Statistics Weekly

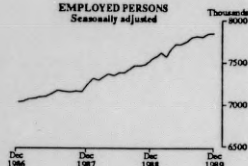
Thursday, 18 January 1990

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Labour market steady

EMPLOYED PERSONS
Seasonally adjusted



Seasonally adjusted labour force estimates for December showed small rises in both total employment and unemployment.

A rise of 13,900 in the number of females employed full-time was more than offset by a fall of 22,400 in male full-time employment. However, part-time employment rose by 11,200, to result in a total employment estimate of 7,845,500 persons — virtually unchanged from the November estimate.

Trend estimates continue to show a slowing in the rate of growth in employment. While trend estimates show a rate of growth of 4.2 per cent per annum between December 1988 and December 1989, when December 1989 is compared with September 1989, the rate of growth is down to 2.2 per cent per annum.

The December 1989 unemployment estimate of 496,300 (seasonally adjusted) is slightly higher than the November 1989 estimate. This is the result of an increase of 13,900 in the number of persons looking for full-time work, offset by a decrease of 9,000 in the number of persons looking for part-time work.

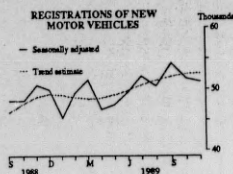
The December 1989 seasonally adjusted estimate of the unemployment rate was 6.0 per cent. The male unemployment rate was 5.6 per cent, an increase of 0.3 percentage points from the November 1989 estimate. For females the unemployment rate was 6.5 per cent, down slightly on November and 1.1 percentage points less than the corresponding December 1988 estimate.

The seasonally adjusted participation rate for December 1989 was 63.5 per cent. The participation rate for females was a record high of 51.8 per cent.

LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES
Seasonally adjusted

	Employed			Un employed	Unemploy- ment rate	Participa- tion rate
	Full-time workers	Part-time workers	Total — '000 —			
1989 —						
September	6,172.0	1,641.8	7,813.8	505.4	6.1	63.5
October	6,183.4	1,622.6	7,806.0	494.2	6.0	63.3
November	6,225.6	1,617.2	7,842.8	491.5	5.9	63.5
December	6,217.1	1,628.4	7,845.5	496.3	6.0	63.5

For further information, order the publication *The Labour Force, Australia*, Preliminary (6202.0), or contact Bruce McClelland on (062) 52 6525.



Further fall in new car registrations

New motor vehicle registrations decreased by one percent after seasonal adjustment in November, following a fall of 4.6 per cent in October.

The decline was more pronounced in the major category of new cars and station wagons, where registrations fell by 3.2 per cent in November

Registrations in the smaller 'other vehicles' category rose by 7.2 per cent.

The table below shows the main movements in this series as a result of the November data. Note that the trend series, which recorded a marginal increase for the month, is still influenced by the succession of rises in registrations in the months before October and November.

REGISTRATIONS OF NEW MOTOR VEHICLES

	Percentage change from		
	November 1989	Previous month	Corresponding month of previous year
Original	53,265	4.1	0.5
Seasonally adjusted	51,260	- 1.0	1.1
Trend	52,548	0.2	7.8

For further information, order the publication *Registrations of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (9301.0)*, or contact Choon Looi on (062) 52 5445.

Interdependence between industries

Input-Output tables compiled annually by the ABS provide a comprehensive numerical snapshot of the Australian economy and its internal structure. Detailed data are collected and presented in these tables for 109 separate industries, for 1400 commodities and for the economy as a whole.

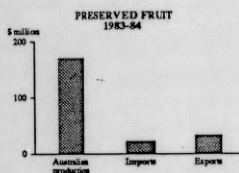
The economic relationships quantified in the tables include those describing the interdependence between various industries in the economy. Examples from the 1983-84 tables which are now available include:

- an additional \$100 of output by the *transport equipment* industry requires an increase in local production of \$10.43 by the *basic metal products* industry;

- an additional \$100 output by the *clothing* industry requires an additional labour input from all industries worth \$47.55 (in wages).

Many other types of input-output relationship also provide useful insights into the Australian economy. Further examples from the 1983-84 tables reveal that:

- commodity taxes (including sales tax) and trade and transport margins add 2.2 per cent and 61.4 per cent respectively to the prices of *furniture and mattresses* sold to households, and;
- for the commodity classification *preserved fruit*, Australian production, imports and exports were respectively \$172 million, \$25 million and \$35 million.



Also of value to those interested in the structure of the economy are the statistics revealing purchasing and sales patterns for individual industries.

The table below, for example, presents a simplified production account comparing the total manufacturing sector with the economy as a whole.

SIMPLIFIED PRODUCTION ACCOUNT, 1983-84

Expenditure	Manufacturing sector		Total economy	
	\$m	%	\$m	%
Purchases of other industries' outputs	52,330	55	133,345	40
Wages & salaries	18,338	19	96,509	29
Other expenditure (including taxes)	15,708	17	31,486	9
Gross operating surplus	8,404	9	72,489	22
Total inputs	94,780	100	333,829	100
Income from outputs for				
Use by other industries	52,676	56	133,345	40
Household consumption	24,954	26	100,438	30
Capital formation	6,925	7	35,119	11
Export	10,056	11	26,297	8
Other (including change in stocks)	169	0	38,630	12
Total outputs	94,780	100	333,829	100

For further information, order the publications *Australian National Accounts: Input-Output Tables, 1983-84 (5209.0)* and *Australian National Accounts: Input-Output Tables, Commodity Details, 1983-84 (5215.0)* or contact Doris de Zilva on (062) 52 6643.

Fall in mineral exploration spending

Expenditure on private exploration for both petroleum and other minerals fell in the September quarter 1989.

Spending on private petroleum exploration fell by 14.9 per cent to \$131.2 million. Spending on other minerals was down 10.3 per cent to \$149.6 million, with explorers reporting lack of funds as the main factor in the fall from the seasonally high June quarter figure.

Total exploration expenditure decreased by 12.5 per cent to approximately \$281 million.

MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE
(\$ million)

Quarter	Mineral (excl. petroleum)	Petroleum (onshore and offshore)	Total
1988 —			
June	221	141	362
September	182	152	334
December	197	197	394
1989 —			
March	151	135	286
June	167	154	321
September	150	131	281

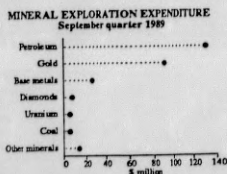
A feature of the petroleum exploration data was a big fall of 21.4 per cent in onshore exploration expenditure compared with a more modest 12.3 per cent drop in spending on offshore projects.

Spending on gold exploration decreased by \$17.6 million to \$90.4 million, but still accounted for over 60 per cent of all non-petroleum expenditure. Western Australia maintained its share of gold exploration expenditure at over 60 per cent with spending of \$54.4 million.

Expenditure on mineral sands exploration, coal, diamonds and other minerals also decreased, with falls of \$1.5 million, \$0.6 million, \$0.9 million and \$2.7 million, respectively.

Base metals exploration expenditure led the way in increases with a rise of \$4.0 million, and was followed by uranium (up \$1.3 million) and iron ore (up \$0.6 million).

For further information, order the publication *Actual and Expected Private Mineral Exploration, Australia* (8412.0) or contact Bob Winch on (09) 323 5151.



All the week's releases: 10 to 16 January

Inquiries

The ABS supplies statistical information:

- ☐ through its bookshops
- ☐ by mail order (including subscription)
- ☐ by facsimile
- ☐ electronically.

To order any of the publications that appear in *Statistics Weekly* or to inquire about the statistics and services available from the ABS, contact Information Services at any of the offices listed below. An Information Consultancy Service in each office provides assistance of a more extensive or complex nature.

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- SA (08) 237 7100
- Tas. (002) 20 5800
- NT (089) 81 3456

Any suggestions for improvement to this publication should be addressed to:

The Editor
Statistics Weekly
(062) 52 6917

General

- Publications Issued in December 1989 (1102.0; \$5.00)
- Statistics Weekly, 11 January 1990 (1318.0; \$3.50)
- Western Aust.: Facts and Figures, 1989 (1302.5; \$7.95) (*Previously: Western Australian Pocket Year Book*)

Demography

- Estimated Resident Population by Country of Birth, Age and Sex, Aust., June 1988 and Pre June 1989 (3221.0; \$10.00)
- Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Aust., September Qtr 1989 (3402.0; \$11.50)

Social statistics

- The 1996 Olympic Survey, Vic., October 1989 (4119.2; \$3.50) — *new issue*

National accounts, finance and foreign trade

- Lease Finance, Aust., October 1989 (5644.0; \$5.00)
- State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure, September Qtr 1989 Survey (5646.0; \$8.00) (*Previously: State Estimates of Actual and Expected New Fixed Capital Expenditure by Private Enterprises in Selected Industries*)

Labour statistics and prices

- The Labour Force, Aust., December 1989, Preliminary (6202.0; \$8.50)
- Persons Not in the Labour Force, Aust., September 1989 (6220.0; \$8.00)
- Transition from Education to Work, Aust., May 1989 (6227.0; \$8.50)
- The Labour Force, Aust. — Preliminary Data on Floppy Disk, December 1989 (6271.0; \$60.00)

Agriculture

- Viticulture, Aust., 1988-89 (7310.0; \$15.00)
- Agricultural Land Use and Selected Inputs, Qld, 1987-88 (7411.3; \$12.50)

Secondary industry and distribution

- Manufacturing Industry, Selected Items of Data by Employment Size, Aust., 1987-88 (8204.0; \$11.50) — *final issue*
- Production of Household Appliances and Electrical Equipment, Aust., September 1989 (8357.0; \$5.50)
- Production of Clothing and Footwear, Aust., September 1989 (8358.0; \$8.50)
- Production of Building Materials and Fittings, Aust., September 1989 (8361.0; \$5.50)
- Production of Metal Products, Aust., September 1989 (8367.0; \$4.50)
- Actual and Expected Private Mineral Exploration, Aust., September Qtr 1989 (8412.0; \$3.00)
- Building Approvals, Aust., November 1989 Corrigendum (8731.0; free)
- Engineering Construction Survey, Aust., September Qtr 1989 (8762.0; \$8.00)
- Dwelling Units Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, Vic., October 1989 (8741.2; \$8.00)
- Manufacturing Establishments: Small Area Statistics, Qld, 1987-88 (8205.3; \$11.50)
- Building Activity, WA, September Qtr 1989 (8752.5; \$8.00)
- Tourist Accommodation Indicator, Major Licensed Hotels and Motels, SA, December 1989 (8646.4; \$5.00)
- Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, SA, October 1989, Preliminary (8740.4; \$3.30)
- Sawmilling, Woodchipping, etc. Statistics, Tas., September Qtr 1989 (8203.6; \$3.00)
- Building Approvals, NT, November 1989 (8731.7; \$5.00)
- Building Activity, NT, September Qtr 1989 (8752.7; \$7.50)
- Tourist Accommodation: Selected Establishments, ACT, November 1989 (8646.8; \$5.00)

Transport

- Interstate Road Freight Movement, Aust., September Qtr 1989 (9214.0; \$5.00)
- Registrations of New Motor Vehicles, Aust., November 1989, Preliminary (9301.0; \$4.00)
- Motor Vehicle Registrations, Aust., October 1989 (9303.0; \$9.00)
- Motor Vehicle Registrations, Qld, November 1989 (9303.3; \$5.50)
- Motor Vehicle Registrations, WA, November 1989 (9303.5; \$5.50)
- Motor Vehicle Registrations, Tas., November 1989 (9303.6; \$3.50)

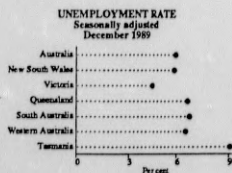
Calendar of key releases

Expected releases over the fortnight to 30 January 1990

- 22** Retail Trade, Aust., November 1989 (8501.0; \$8.50)
- 23** Import Price Index, Aust., September Qtr 1989 (6414.0; \$4.00)
- 24** Balance of Payments, Aust., December 1989 (5301.0; \$10.00)
- 25** Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Aust., November 1989 (5609.0; \$8.00)
Export Price Index, Aust., November 1989 (6405.0; \$5.00)
Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building, Eight Capital Cities, November 1989 (6407.0; \$9.00)
- 29** Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra, November 1989 (6408.0; \$3.75)
Production Statistics, Aust., December 1989, Preliminary (8301.0; \$5.00)
- 30** Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Aust., November 1989 (6411.0; \$8.50)
Price Indexes of Articles Produced By Manufacturing Industry, Aust., November 1989 (6412.0; \$6.00)

The latest ...

Changes to key State indicators — consolidated to
16 January 1990



	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
— Percentage change from same period previous year —									
New capital expenditure (Sept. qtr 89)*	15.9	24.8	15.2	0.0	45.4	-26.7	n.a.	n.a.	21.1
Retail turnover (Oct. 89) (trend estimate)	13.5	4.4	11.1	4.9	12.5	9.7	n.a.	6.2	9.6
New motor vehicle registrations (Nov. 89)*	8.1	-6.7	0.6	3.6	-13.6	n.a.	31.3	34.9	1.1
Number of dwelling unit approvals (Nov. 89)	-22.9	-27.4	-21.9	0.6	-30.5	4.6	-14.2	-63.1	-22.8
Value of total building work done (June 89)	38.6	42.1	34.4	22.9	54.9	17.4	-8.5	-3.0	36.8
Employed persons (Dec. 89)*	4.1	3.3	6.7	2.4	3.5	6.5	1.5	4.3	4.2
Capital city consumer price index (Sept. qtr 89)	8.1	8.3	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.2	7.0	5.6	8.0
Average weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time) (August 89)	10.6	6.9	5.8	7.6	5.8	6.7	4.5	7.5	8.0
Population (June 89)	1.1	1.3	3.2	1.1	3.0	0.6	0.2	1.6	1.6
Room occupancy rates in licensed hotels and motels, etc (June qtr 89)	-3.5	-0.7	-12.6	1.5	3.5	4.5	0.9	-10.0	-3.9

* Seasonally adjusted for States (but not Territories)

The latest ...

Key national indicators - consolidated to 16 January 1990

			Latest figure available		Percentage change (a) on	
			Original	Seasonally adjusted	Previous period	Corresponding period last year
Period						
National production						
Gross domestic product	— current prices	\$m	89,803	89,733	1.8	13.0
	— 1984-85 prices	"	63,334	63,732	0.7	5.4
Industrial activity						
New capital expenditure	— current prices	\$m	7,152	7,413	0.0	20.2
	— 1984-85 prices	"	5,344	5,733	-1.8	18.3
Expected new capital expenditure		Three months to Dec. 89	8,493	n.a.	n.a.	11.3
Retail turnover	— current prices	" Oct. 89	6,720	6,789	-1.5	7.9
	— 1984-85 prices	" Sept. qtr 89	14,280	14,788	0.9	5.0
New motor vehicle registrations		No. Nov. 89	53,265	51,260	-1.0	1.1
Dwelling unit approvals		" Nov. 89	13,235	11,960	2.0	-22.8
Value of all building approvals		" "	2,363	2,159	-14.2	-5.5
Value of total building work done		" June qtr 89	7,622	7,711	7.6	36.9
	— current prices	" "	5,138	5,198	4.7	21.1
	— 1984-85 prices	" "	36,369	35,389	1.5	14.0
Manufacturers' sales		Sept. qtr 89				
Expected manufacturers' sales		Three months to Dec. 89	37,447	n.a.	n.a.	9.6
Labour						
Employed persons		'000 Dec. 89	7,941.4	7,845.5	0.0	4.2
Unemployment rate †	%	" "	5.9	6.0	0.1	-0.9
Participation rate †	"	" "	64.2	63.5	0.0	0.8
Job vacancies		'000 August 89	64.3	n.a.	-12.1	-2.3
Average weekly overtime per employee	hours	" "	1.5	n.a.	1.6	10.7
Prices, profits and wages						
Consumer price index	1980-81 = 100.0	Sept. qtr 89	197.0	n.a.	2.3	8.0
Price index of materials used in manufacturing industry	1984-85 = 100.0	Oct. 89	117.8	n.a.	0.1	6.7
Price index of articles produced by manufacturing industry	1968-69 = 100.0	" "	553.2	n.a.	0.5	6.4
Company profits before income tax	\$m	Sept. qtr 89	4,846	4,667	-3.6	14.1
Average weekly earnings (Full-time adult; ordinary time)	\$	August 89	508.40	n.a.	1.5	8.0
Interest rates (b) (monthly average)						
90-day bank bills †	% per annum	Nov. 89	18.20	n.a.	-0.2	3.2
10-year Treasury bonds †	"	"	13.10	n.a.	-0.5	0.8
Balance of payments						
Exports of merchandise	\$m	Nov. 89	4,187	4,049	-0.6	15.8
Imports of merchandise	"	"	4,521	4,335	0.2	10.2
Balance on merchandise trade (c)	"	"	-334	-286	-11.7	34.3
Balance of goods and services (c)	"	"	-705	-755	-19.1	-11.5
Balance on current account (c)	"	"	-1,578	-1,757	-4.2	-7.5
Terms of trade (d)	1984-85 = 100.0	Sept. qtr 89	n.a.	108.2	-2.8	3.0
Foreign investment						
Net foreign debt	\$m	30 Sept. 89	110,329	n.a.	1.9	14.7
Net foreign liabilities	"	"	147,716	n.a.	3.5	15.1
Exchange rates (monthly average)						
\$US	per \$A	Nov. 89	0.7826	n.a.	1.0	-7.9
Trade weighted index	May 1970 = 100.0	"	60.8	n.a.	1.2	-2.3
Other indicators						
Population (estimated resident)	million	June 89	16.8	n.a.	0.4	1.6
Overseas visitors (e)	'000	Oct. 89	174	165	-9.8	-15.2

(a) Based on seasonally adjusted figures where available. (b) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (c) For percentage changes, a minus sign indicates an increase in the deficit; no sign means a decrease in the deficit or an increase in the surplus. (d) The ratio of the price of goods and services for exports to that for imports. (e) Later figures released Wednesday, 17 January 1990.
NOTES: † = change is shown in terms of percentage points. n.a. = not available.

Figures have been taken from a variety of ABS publications. Copies may be obtained from Information Services (see page 6). Some of the figures shown are preliminary, some final, and some are revisions of previously published figures. Users should check the latest relevant publication or with the ABS Information Services if the status of the statistic is important.

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